

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 509
By McDaniel

A RESOLUTION to designate August 17, 2003, as "David
Crockett Day" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should designate August 17, 2003, as "David Crockett Day" in recognition of one of Tennessee's most notable native sons for his legendary volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, David Crockett is revered as a pioneer, frontiersman, public servant, statesman, backwoods orator, and most of all, a man of the people, and he will always be remembered as an heroic participant in the Battle of the Alamo, in which he made the ultimate sacrifice of his life to preserve the independence of the Republic of Texas; and

WHEREAS, epitomized as a true Renaissance man, David Crockett engaged in a variety of occupations over his lifetime, including that of farming, trapping, hunting, milling, distilling, and in political and military activities; and

WHEREAS, born in Greene County on August 17, 1786, David Crockett moved several times over his lifetime, while living in Tennessee, he also domiciled in Jefferson County, Lincoln County, Franklin County, Lawrence County, and Gibson County; and

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WHEREAS, his record of volunteerism is lengthy and quite impressive: from 1813-15, he volunteered his services to fight in the Creek Indian Wars, a part of the War of 1812, entering the war as a private and coming home as a fourth sergeant in the Tennessee Volunteer Mounted Riflemen; and

WHEREAS, from 1817-20, he served as a magistrate of, and on the town council in, Lawrenceburg, and was elected to be a colonel in the 57th Militia Regiment of Lawrence County; David Crockett was elected to the Tennessee State Legislature, where he astutely represented Lawrence and Hickman counties and was subsequently reelected in 1823, but lost the 1825 election; and

WHEREAS, in 1827, he was elected to the United States House of Representatives to represent the northwestern district of Tennessee; he earned his bid for reelection in 1829, was defeated in 1831 but came back to be reelected in 1833, prior to his unsuccessful bid for Congress in 1835; and

WHEREAS, it was after his final bid for Congress that he set out on his western journey and ultimate destination of Texas, and thus helped to secure Texas' independence from Mexico; it was on March 6, 1836, that he made the ultimate sacrifice for the cause of freedom at the Battle of the Alamo; and

WHEREAS, after David Crockett's death many Tennesseans have followed his example; in every major war, Tennessee has led the way in the number of volunteers who have stepped forward to serve their Country; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby designate August 17, 2003, as "David Crockett Day" in Tennessee as a way to commemorate the brave service that David Crockett and many other Tennesseans have exhibited in their astute and brave service to this State and nation, thereby

honoring those citizens who have demonstrated that they possess the same volunteer spirit that is synonymous with the life that David Crockett exemplified.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.